



all. For instance, there have been many occasions where men have completely ignored me and dealt with other male merchants. As far as they were concerned, I wasn't even present. So much for the government's sainted ability to insure equality through coercive means.

Some feminists of the socialist persuasion may argue that women in the Soviet Union are on an equal status with the men. This is fine except that neither have any freedom of choice in this case. In most socialist structures, both men and women are slaves of the State, and this is hardly conducive to a free and independent life style. What possible benefits are obtained by being equal to a man if that man has no rights but those granted by the State? Truly, this would be a mockery of the very task we have chosen to undertake.

If women are to be truly equal, they must bring about equality without the use of coercion. The point of equality is not whether one is employed on an equal basis with a man, but whether a woman has the total and unconditional sovereignty over her life.

Let me make my mistakes and earn my triumphs with my own head, heart and hands. Only in this way can I grow to maturity as a fully responsible human being.

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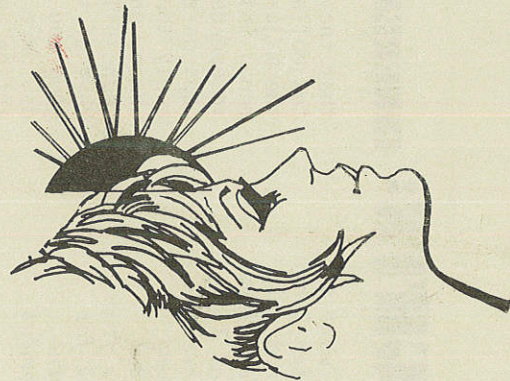
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**THE LIBERTAS STATEMENT**

We, as libertarians, affirm:  
 That full individual liberty is impossible in any society other than a voluntary one that addresses upon no one;  
 That men and women require the full and independent use of their own judgement in order to survive at an optimum level, and therefore have a natural right to do their own thing, providing that they do not physically harm or coercively restrict another individual's life, liberty, or property;  
 That each person owns himself or herself exclusively, and is a slave to no one;  
 That the individual is best served by society when he or she is free from the forcefully imposed controls of others, acting alone or in concert (as government);  
 That all forms of coercion and aggression are always immoral;  
 That the only system consistent with personal freedoms in the economic arena is one that does not interfere with free trade between individuals;  
 THEREFORE, we, as libertarians, resolve to oppose all forms of aggression by any State, Government, self-appointed savior, individual, or association of individuals. We further resolve to oppose taxation, conscription, eminent domain, laws which create victimless crimes, and all other government actions which are not necessary to protect the rights of the individual; and we maintain that the chains of authoritarianism in economics and morality be broken. Individual rights and coercion cannot co-exist. Liberty cannot be promised, and we will settle for no less than freedom in our time.

By JANELLE BOYER

**WOMEN'S RIGHTS:  
 Inherent  
 Or  
 Institutional?**



# WOMEN'S RIGHTS: INHERENT OR INSTITUTIONAL?

*If a woman said to you, "I want to be free from the domination of men," but turned to a tyrannical husband not only for financial support but for decisions about her own personal and social life, you would undoubtedly consider her inconsistent. Yet that is what many feminists are doing on a political level. They say they want to be free of the domination of men but ask for favors and handouts from a government of men (for example, government day-care centers).*

SHARON PRESLEY  
National Coordinator  
Association of  
Libertarian Feminists

Does government have the power to create equality for women? Many feminist advocates seem to think they can achieve fair treatment through such blatantly unfair (coercive) means. The objective of this paper is to briefly point out some of the fallacies in this idea.

First and most important, in order to command freedom, one must act in a way which exemplifies freedom. To crawl towards government everytime one's needs aren't met, symbolizes emotional dependency and enhances financial servitude. It is the inherent evil in all forms of government to rule over other peoples lives, and therefore to destroy their sovereignty.

A woman must seek not only sovereignty from men but also from other women. It is not just for her to claim her freedom by forcing others to live their lives by her standards and values. Equality is only obtainable through voluntary agreement. And in order to achieve axiomatic equality, a continuous process of teaching and learning must be practiced. It is not enough to say "I am equal" if my equality is only validated by the point of a gun. Equality must be an agreed upon term. Government, which is for the most part a body of men, cannot force any one to learn to accept new ideas or become unbogoted. As the busting (as well as many other) issue has shown, force only brings about more force.

## DAY CARE CENTERS

One very harmful demand which many socialist oriented feminists make on government is the "free" day care centers which are tax-supported. Since day care centers were designed as an aid towards independence, it seems contradictory

that they be financed with tax dollars. Most tax dollars come from working men which means the majority of day care centers are paid for by men. This does not aid in the development of independence; it merely seeks to humor and perhaps quiet the desire for freedom. In order to apply the idea of being a free and independent woman, one must be willing to accept the responsibilities that go along with the "title." Part of this responsibility is paying for the good and services you receive. There are many day care centers which work through voluntary action and payment for services received.

Women in America are beginning to emerge from the chains of social slavery and much of the new freedom is going to be laughed at, feared or hum-bugged. This is a crucial time for the "New Woman" and we must let people know that we are not jesting.

## EQUALITARIAN FACADE

To date, there has been a modicum of effort on the part of the government to balance the status of the sexes. It has, however, done little or no good. Women are hired for jobs not because of their competence, but from the necessity of meeting minority quota. This equalitarian facade does not run over into most people's personal lives.

Many men, when confronted by a woman in a business dealing (with the man as a customer and the woman as the merchant), either find the situation amusing or refuse to deal with it at

## CONGRESSIONAL DISCRIMINATION

PARADE magazine, December 14, 1975

Over the years Congress has passed a series of laws -- the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Equal Pay Act of 1963 are two -- to guard against widespread salary discrimination. Now it turns out Congress is one of the leading salary discriminating institutions in the country.

A study released some weeks ago by the Capitol Hill Women's Political Caucus found that the median salary on Capitol Hill is \$10,260 for women and \$17,670 for men. In Senatorial offices, of those employed at a level of \$18,000 or more, 75.4% were found to be men, and 24.6% women. Among press secretaries, the median salary for females is \$10,878, the median salary for males is \$26,600..